

## CLAIMS

- 1 1. A freestanding candle, in an operable position having a wick supported by a fuel  
2 body and extending upwardly from a top surface of the fuel body, the candle comprising:  
3 (a) a flame-resistant sheet joined to the fuel body in proximity to a lower end  
4 of the wick and extending outwardly at least substantially one inch from the longitudinal  
5 axis of the wick; and  
6 (b) an upright wick support contacting the sheet and holding the lower end of  
7 the wick, the support forming a barrier separating the lower end of the wick from the fuel  
8 body.
- 1 2. The candle of claim 1, wherein the wick support is attached to the sheet.
- 1 3. The candle of claim 2, wherein the wick support is sealingly bonded to the sheet.

1 4. The candle of claim 3, wherein the sheet has an adhesive backing that bonds to  
2 the wick support and the bottom surface of the fuel body.

1 5. The candle of claim 1, wherein the wick support has a sealant disposed at least  
2 across an opening to a bore extending through the wick support.

1 6. The candle of claim 1, wherein the wick support is formed *in situ* unitarily with  
2 the wick.

1 7. The candle of claim 6, wherein the wick support is a solid, flame-resistant agent  
2 disposed on a surface of the lower end of the wick.

1 8. The candle of claim 6, wherein the wick support is a solid, flame-resistant agent  
2 impregnating the lower end of the wick.

1 9. The candle of claim 7 or 8, wherein the wick support is bonded to the sheet by the  
2 flame-resistant agent.

1 10. The candle of claim 1, wherein the wick support is a block of solid, flame-  
2 resistant material.

1 11. The candle of claim 1, wherein the wick support extends above the sheet an  
2 amount sufficient to prevent a candle fire.

1 12. The candle of claim 11, wherein the amount sufficient to prevent a candle fire is  
2 at least about one-half inch.

1 13. The candle of claim 1, wherein the sheet extends substantially to an outer  
2 peripheral surface of the fuel body.

1 14. The candle of claim 1, wherein the sheet has a peripheral rim having a thickness  
2 greater than the sheet.

1 15. The candle of claim 1, wherein the sheet has a flange at an outer boundary.

1 16. The candle of claim 1, wherein the sheet is imbedded within the fuel body.

1 17. The candle of claim 1, wherein the sheet is adhered to the bottom surface of the  
2 fuel body.

1 18. The candle of claim 1, wherein the sheet is corrugated.

- 1 19. The candle of claim 1, wherein the sheet is dome-shaped.
- 1 20. The candle of claim 1, wherein the fuel body has multiple wicks.
- 1 21. The candle of claim 20, wherein each flame-resistant sheet in proximity to each  
2 wick extends at least one inch from the longitudinal axis of each wick.
- 1 22. The candle of claim 1, wherein the wick support is crimped.
- 1 23. A method of forming an upright wick support on a wick of a freestanding candle,  
2 the method comprising:  
3 (a) impregnating in advance an end region of said wick with a flame-resistant  
4 sealant; and  
5 (b) bonding said end region of said wick to a flame-resistant sheet.